

## FROM INDIGO

### VOODOO CEREMONY

The word voodoo designates a comprehensive mix of beliefs and rituals of African origins in a new religious belief. Voodoo is a rich and misunderstood religion of harmony between the living being and his/her surroundings. The fundamental aspect of the religion of voodoo, is its influence in the social life of the believers, especially in the peasant community. It is through voodoo that basic notions of life, society, harmony with nature, medicinal plants and culture in general are transmitted to the younger generations of Haitians. In the Haitian countryside, voodoo goes hand-by-hand with the imaginary and life in general. It is the vital force that underlies all Haitian art forms be it painting, story-telling or music. You are invited to enter this mystical universe and witness some traditional voodoo rituals in a visually dazzling and musically mesmerizing show.

**LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY:** I

**INCLUDED:** Ground transportation, English-speaking tour guide, entry fee, drinks.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:** Casual dress wear (men - long pants and shirt; women - long pants or long skirt).

**MINIMUM AGE REQUIREMENT:** 16 years and over

**MINIMUM:** 6 people

**MAXIMUM:** 18 people

**DEPARTURE:** 6:00 p.m.

**ARRIVAL:** 8:00 p.m

## MONTROUIS WALKING TOUR

Take the « route des rails » to visit Montrouis village and discover a port welcoming boatload of salt and source Cadenette, a voodoo site. A unique opportunity to experience traditional negotiation with the Haitian merchant. On the way, your guide will identify the different trees, crops and exotic flowers. He'll deliver the secrets of traditional herbal medicine. A perfect excursion to admire an authentic picture of Haitian life.

## OGIER FOMBRUN MUSEUM (OPTIONAL)

Haiti, or Saint Domingue as the country was then known, was France's richest colony, in its heyday producing over three quarters of the world's sugar. The work force employed in this endeavour was provided by the exploitation of slaves brought over from Africa. Eventually, armies of slaves bravely fought to successfully uproot slavery and colonialism, and in 1804 an independent Haiti became the first Black Republic in the world. Habitation Ogier was a sugarcane plantation built in 1760 and later abandoned. It is one of the few plantations to have survived the ravages of time. The ruins of the former plantation were discovered in 1977 by the architect Gérard Frombrun, who then dedicated himself to restoring the structure. Now completely restored to its former glory, the main building houses the museum, exhibiting authentic historical relics narrating the origins of the Haitian nation. A place of memory and recognition, evoking heroism from times past.

### LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY: I

**INCLUDED:** Ground transportation in Tap Tap, English-speaking tour guide, entry fees, fruits, and beverage.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:** Light and comfortable clothing, comfortable shoes, hat, sunscreen, insect repellent, local or US currency in small denominations for purchase of local crafts and products.

**MINIMUM:** 5 people

**MAXIMUM:** 24 people

**SCHEDULE:** 8:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. | 2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

## HAITI RUM ROUTE – LA PLAINE DU CUL DE SAC

The farming of sugarcane and its by-products, is intrinsically linked to the history and culture of Haiti. The Barbancourt Rum Distillery in Damien, having been established in 1862, is one of Haiti's oldest companies and the rum produced here is widely regarded as one of the best in the world. The visit of the installations includes a tasting of fine rum. (In season November-June.) The Sugarcane Museum in Tabarre offers an in-depth insight into the processing of this popular plant throughout the centuries. There are also several other museum pavilions dedicated to Haitian history and musical heritage. Lunch is served at "Le Relai de Chateaublond" and is accompanied by a tasting of so-called "trempés" - white rum, infused with fragrant leaves, fruits or roots, purported to have multiple health benefits. There is also a local distillery where the Clairin or Kleren liqueur is produced. Before achieve our visit at Nouailles Artist Commune, local artists re-imagine scrap metal into real works of art, showcasing the ingenuity of the Haitian people.

**LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY:** I

**INCLUDED:** Ground transportation, entry fees, rum tasting, "trempés" tasting, English-speaking tour guide, lunch and beverages.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:** Comfortable shoes, hat, sunscreen, local or US currency in small denominations for purchase of local crafts and products.

**FREQUENCY:** Monday through Friday. Closed on public holidays.

**MINIMUM:** 6 people

**MAXIMUM:** 50 people

**DEPARTURE:** 8:30 a.m.

**ARRIVAL:** 5:30 p.m.

## HISTORIC HAITI – SANS SOUCI & CITADELLE HENRY

Climbing to the mountaintop fortress of Citadelle Henry, in northern Haiti, is the largest fortress in the Western Hemisphere and arguably the country's most important historic site. Officially called The National History Park Citadelle, Sans Souci, Ramier, 20,000 workers laboured in its construction between the years 1806 and 1820, during the reign of Henry Christophe - an influential leader of the successful slave rebellion that led to independence from France, who later became the self-appointed king of the northern region of new state of Haiti. We continue on to Milot where we visit the circular Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception Church and the ruins of the Sans Souci Royal Palace, also a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The journey continues up a steep mountain road towards the looming citadelle. The ascent is done on horseback (about 30 min. with a horse attendant's assistance). The massively grand Citadelle was built to house 5,000 people and exhibits an impressive collection of canons from the 18th and 19th centuries. From the high point of the fortress, the view of the surrounding landscape is endless - in fact, it reaches all the way to the neighbouring Dominican Republic. We descend the same way we came up, upon which lunch is served in a local restaurant.

**\*NOTE:** Only individuals in reasonable physical health can participate in this activity. Pregnant women and clients under the influence of alcohol or any other intoxicants are not allowed to partake in this activity.

**LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY:** II-III

**INCLUDED:** Ground transportation, entry fees, horse rental, lunch , beverages, English-speaking tour guide.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:** Long pants and long-sleeved shirt, hiking boots or running shoes, hat, sunscreen, local or US currency in small denominations for purchase of local crafts and products.

**MINIMUM:** 2 people

**MAXIMUM:** 38 people

**DEPARTURE:** 5:30 a.m.

**ARRIVAL:** 10:00 p.m.

## JACMEL & BASSIN BLEU

Jacmel, a town that lies nested in a stunning bay along the distant Caribbean coastline, is a place where past and present seem to harmoniously mesh. The town has played an important role in the country's history, but it is also the cradle of poets, musicians, artists, painters, novelists and intellectuals. We will have the opportunity to participate in one of the oldest traditions from this town which is the handcrafting in paper maché, we will be able to use our imagination to create and paint art with this material. Bassin Bleu (Blue Lagoon), lies about 40 minutes driving distance from Jacmel, along a road that offers splendid views of the bay and the town. From Grand-Fond, we continue on foot for about 15 minutes, before arriving at the Bassin Bleu waterfall. The cascading waters form three lagoons, of which Bassin-Clair (Clear Lagoon) is the most spectacular, but also the most difficult to reach - it is necessary to climb up a small ladder and climb down the other side with the help of a rope. The reward: an unforgettable plunge into the blue waters of the lagoon.

**LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY:** II

**INCLUDED:** Ground transportation, English-speaking tour guide, lunch, beverages, snack.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:** Light and comfortable clothing, hiking boots or running shoes, wet shoes, bathing suit, towel, sunscreen, insect repellent, hat, local or US currency in small denominations for purchase of local crafts and products.

**MINIMUM AGE REQUIREMENT:** 10 years and over

**MINIMUM:** 4 people

**MAXIMUM:** 36 people

**DEPARTURE:** 5:30 a.m.

**ARRIVAL:** 9:00 p.m.

## MARCHAND DESSALINES

It is known as the First Black Capital of the New World. Marchand Dessalines was the first town founded after the Haitian declaration of independence in 1804. The attraction in this town is a network of fortifications, built for defensive as well as offensive purposes. In total, there are six forts: Culbuté, Décidé, Doko, Madame, Innocent and Fin du Monde, the “End of The World” fort, so-called because of its location on the highest point of the hill, giving the impression that the entire world lies at its feet. Scattered across the town of Marchand Dessalines are sites of historical importance and pretty houses that used to belong to famous players in Haiti’s history, e.g. the tile-roofed house of Marie-Claire Heureuse Félicité (the Emperor’s spouse), the house of Charlotin Marcadieu, the graves of General Brutus, Colonel Gabart and Benoît Batrville, as well as the remains of Dessalines’ house and several caverns and pools of water.

**LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY:** I – II

**MINIMUM AGE REQUIREMENT:** 10 years old

**INCLUDED:** Ground transportation, English-speaking tour guide, beverages, fruits, entry fees.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:** Casual wear, comfortable shoes, sunscreen, insect repellent, hat, local or US currency in small denominations for purchase of local crafts and products.

**MINIMUM:** 4 people

**MAXIMUM:** 36 people

**DEPARTURE:** 7:30 a.m.

**ARRIVAL:** 1:00 p.m.

## THE BAMBOO TOWN OF MARMELADE

Marmelade is a town located in the Artibonite region, 30 km. from Gonaïves. Here you have the opportunity to experience life in a town strongly influenced by the growing of bamboo. “Casa Bambou” is a structure totally made out of bamboo, without the use of nails, wood, cement or other materials. The visit also takes you to see the hillside lake community called Beauche, as well as downtown Marmelade with its church and market. A guided visit of the plant nursery, the workshops producing bamboo furniture and the plant where bamboo juice is extracted is also part of the itinerary. You will also be treated to a little violin performance.

**LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY: I**

**INCLUDED:** Ground transportation, English-speaking tour guide, lunch, beverages, snack.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:** Casual wear, comfortable shoes, sunscreen, insect repellent, hat, local or US currency in small denominations for purchase of local crafts and products.

**MINIMUM:** 8 people

**MAXIMUM:** 18 people

**DEPARTURE:** 8:00 a.m.

**ARRIVAL:** 6:00 p.m.

## OGIER FOMBRUN MUSEUM

The **Ogier-Fombrun Museum** is a « must see » site for anyone visiting Haïti. Located only 5 minutes away from the Royal Decameron hotel, this charming museum is nestled within the renovated ruins of an 18<sup>th</sup> century sugarcane plantation. Inside, a wide and interesting collection of authentic artifacts narrate the history of the Haitian nation, from its Taino origins, followed by the Spanish and French colonial periods, up to 1804 when Haiti became independent. The ride to get there is fun and agreeable, since transport is provided by a “**Tap-Tap**”, a colorfully painted camionnette, which is the typical Haitian means of transportation. Upon arrival, the visitors are warmly welcomed by young local guides who enthusiastically offer them the opportunity to learn more about the culture and extraordinary history of this country. A beautiful variety of souvenirs and art crafts are also available as taking away gifts at the Boutique.

**LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY:** I

**INCLUDED:** Ground transportation, admission fees, English-speaking guide, rum cocktail, souvenir.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:** Comfortable shoes and clothes, sunscreen.

**MINIMUM:** 1 person

**MAXIMUM:** 15 people

**DURATION:** 2 hours

**RECOMMENDATIONS:** Comfortable shoes and clothes, sunscreen, sunglasses, small-cut money for buying local crafts and souvenirs.



### TREKKING – PIAT SOURCE & WATERCRESS FIELDS

The trek starts in the village of Délugé, not far from the Hotel. Initially, the trail follows the banks of the Délugé River, before taking us through some traditional and inaccessible countryside villages, where we have the opportunity to interact with and get to know the local resident's closer. The flora and fauna of this valley is abundant and diverse, as the river waters gush from the mountains and create a virtual oasis of green amidst the bare mountains. Eventually, having taken some breaks along the way, we arrive at the Piat Source at 900m/2,950ft of altitude. Here is where they farm watercress. The reward of the walk is a refreshing dip in one of the natural pools, surrounded by watercress fields, while savoring exotic fruits - a uniquely invigorating experience!

**\*NOTE:** Only individuals in reasonable physical health can participate in this activity. Pregnant women and clients under the influence of alcohol or any other intoxicants are not allowed to partake in this activity.

**LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY:** III

**MINIMUM AGE REQUIREMENT:** 12 years old

**INCLUDED:** Ground transportation in Tap Tap, English-speaking tour guide, local guide, entry fees, fresh fruit, beverages.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:** Shorts and T-shirt, hiking boots or running shoes, hat, sunscreen, bathing suit, towel, insect repellent, local or US currency in small denominations for purchase of local crafts and products.

**MINIMUM:** 5 people

**MAXIMUM:** 24 people

**DEPARTURE:** 7:30 a.m.

**ARRIVAL :** 11 :30 a.m.

### PORT – AU – PRINCE CITY TOUR

The city tour will take us through the areas of Port-au-Prince, that were severely affected by the earthquake in 2010, to the newly restored Iron Market, with its colorful selection of Haitian arts and crafts. Free time for shopping. We stop at the National Pantheon Museum (MUPANAH), where we immerse ourselves in Haiti's dramatic history, and continue on through the Bois Verna neighborhood and its pictures of gingerbread houses of a bygone era. A stop at the main city square, "Le Champs de Mars", with its numerous statues honoring the heroes of Haiti independence, is a must. The drive takes us through Pétionville, a residential municipality within the greater Port-au-Prince area. Since the earthquake, this part of town has become the heart of all upscale commercial activity in the capital. Lunch will be served at a nearby restaurant. Brief stop at a local supermarket, where purchase of local products and access to ATM is available. The day would not be complete without a visit to a renowned Haitian art gallery.

**LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY:** I

**INCLUDED:** Ground transportation, English-speaking tour guide, lunch, soft drinks, entry fees.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:** Comfortable shoes, hat, sunscreen, local or US currency in small denominations for purchase of local crafts and products.

**MINIMUM:** 8 people

**MAXIMUM:** 50 people

**DEPARTURE:** 7:30 a.m.

**ARRIVAL :** 6 :00 p.m.

## WATERFALL CITY OF HAPPINESS

Saut d'Eau, known as the City of Happiness, is a mystical place where people go to venerate saints to resolve their problems. This tour gives us the opportunity to know the Culture and deep Haitian Religiosity. The place stands out for a wonderful waterfall whose waters come from a beautiful fountain and gives name to this sacred and peaceful place for Catholics and Voodoo believers who wish to have a direct communication with their divinity. Here, according to local belief all the entreaties are attended. In this experience we can understand the meaning of Ayiti (in Creole) or Haiti "Mountain Land" since during the journey to Waterfall we will have a wonderful view from a top that gives us a majestic landscape until the separation of the Island, dèyè mòn gene mòn "beyond the Mountains". Regardless of the creed, everyone is welcome!

We will make a stop at the Cultural House for a short rest, and we will continue with the contemplation of the Cascada with the option of a refreshing natural bath and time for prayers; we will also visit the Fuente Tizo and finish in the Cathedral of the City.

### LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY: I

**INCLUDES:** Ground transportation, tour guide with English, French and Spanish fluency, entrance, snack and hydration.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:** Light and comfortable clothing, wet shoes and / or sports shoes, bathing suit, towel, sunscreen, repellent, hat, national currency or USD in low denominations for the purchase of handicrafts and local products.

**MINIMUM AGE:** 12 years

**MINIMUM:** 7 people / **MAXIMUM:** 22 people

**DEPARTURE:** 05:30 a.m. / **RETURN:** 1:30 p.m.

## WATER SPORTS

Haiti is, of course, located in the heart of the Caribbean Sea, and surrounded by world class dive spots. It stands to reason, therefore, that Haiti would provide similar turquoise blue and warm conditions, with a visibility often exceeding 33m/100ft. There are pristine and colourful coral reefs a few miles offshore and these can be reached by boat. In Haiti's tropical waters you will still see schools of a variety of tropical fish, moray eels, crabs, lobsters and the occasional spotted eagle ray, stingray, barracuda and reef shark. Haiti is also home to some of the largest elephant ear sponges in the world, as well as rare black coral - healthy reefs which have surprisingly eluded the coral bleaching that has affected other areas in the Caribbean. Given its extensive and nearly virgin coastline, one could spend years here searching out uncharted territory to explore underwater. With sites like the Zombie Hole, the many wrecks from modern and distant eras and the variety of marine life, Haiti is a water sports destination that is worth the trip. It is plain to see, that there are mysteries to behold beneath the waves of Haiti.

**\*NOTE FOR ALL WATERSPORTS ACTIVITIES: IMPORTANT:** These excursions are not recommended for pregnant women or persons under the influence of alcohol or drugs, for persons with back problems or recent surgery. The tour guide reserves the right to deny admittance to any participant who does not comply with these requirements (without right to reimbursement)

### JET SKI TOUR (1-2 PAX) / DISCOVERY CRUISER (1-3 PAX)

A unique opportunity to explore the Caribbean coast on a jet ski ride for Arcadins. The guide will take you to the most interesting places in this part of the coast of Haiti.

**LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY:** II

**RECOMMENDATIONS:** Bathing suit, sunscreen, towel.

**INCLUDES:** Jet Ski, English-speaking guide.

**DURATION:** 1/2 or 1 hour

**MINIMUM:** 1 person

**MAXIMUM:** 8 people.

## BOAT CHARTER

Enjoy a day on the ocean, whether as a group or a family! A laid-back activity that will take you to one of several destinations: Anse à Galet sandbar, Anse à Pirogue beach, Arcadins Islands, Anse à Raisin, Mikaz Beach. Or maybe you would prefer a romantic sunset cruise in the calm waters of the bay?

### LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY: I

**INCLUDED:** Boat with captain and all necessary safety gear (radio, awning, life-jackets, first-aid kit) and English-speaking crew, snack, soft drinks, beer and bottled water, snorkeling equipment.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:** Light clothing, bathing suit, sunscreen, towel, sunglasses, hat.

**MINIMUM:** 6 people

**MAXIMUM:** 12 people

**DURATION:** 3 hours

### PRIVATE OPTIONS

Boat Charter Half Day and Full Day

Private Boat 3 hours with drinks or without drinks

## SPORT FISHING

The seas off Haiti are still relatively uncharted territory as far as sport fishing is concerned. Our fishing team relies on very experienced staff, familiar with the fishing game in Haiti. Try your luck at catching wahoo, sail fish, tuna or any of the other species that inhabit the warm waters.

Trolling-style fishing in the bay along the coast.

**LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY:** I

**INCLUDED:** Boat (capacity of 8 passengers) with captain and all necessary safety gear (radio, awning, life-jackets, first-aid kit) and English-speaking crew, fishing gear (rod, live bait), snack, soft drinks and bottled water.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:** Light clothing, sunscreen, towel, sunglasses, bathing suit, hat.

**MINIMUM:** 1 person

**MAXIMUM:** 4 people

**DURATION:** Half-day

## FULL-DAY FISHING TOUR

This is the option for the avid fisherman. Big game fishing, of course, involves traveling a longer distance in order to reach deeper waters.

**LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY: II**

**INCLUDED:** Boat (capacity of 8 passengers) with captain and all necessary safety gear (radio, awning, life-jackets, first-aid kit) and English-speaking crew, fishing gear, (rod, live bait), snack, soft drinks and bottled water. If the right fish is caught our crew will offer it as sushi to customers who so wish.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:** Light clothing, sunscreen, towel, bathing suit, sunglasses, hat.

**MINIMUM:** 1 person

**MAXIMUM:** 4 people

**DURATION:** Full-day



## PHOTO SHOOT

### AVAILABLE SCHEDULE

8:00 – 9:00

17:00 – 18:00

Reservation with 24 hours in advance, subject to availability

Duration: 1 hour

Decoration and photographer not included

## SUNSET CRUISE

Discover the magnificent view of the Arcadins Coast on a boat specially designed for this trip and discover the beautiful Sunsets of Haití.

**DIFFICULTY LEVEL:** I

**INCLUDED:** Cocktail (Fruit Punch)

**DEPARTURE TIME:** 17:00 – 18:00 (winter months)

**DURATION:** 60 to 90 minutes

**MINIMUM:** 10 pax

**MAXIMUM:** 40 pax

### BANANA BOAT (tubbing)

Haiti is at the heart of the Caribbean Sea. Therefore, Haiti will bring blue and turquoise waters in warm conditions, with visibility often exceed 33 m / 100 ft.

**LEVEL OF DIFICULTY:** II

**RECOMMENDATIONS:** Swimsuit and towel, sunglasses, sunscreen, hat.

**INCLUDED:** Banana, tour guide

**DURATION:** 15 minutes

**MINIMUM:** 2 pax

**MAXIMUM:** 8 pax

"It is important to note that, according to climate and weather conditions this activity may be canceled. Also, the visibility of wildlife is limited to natural factors. "

## EXPRESS BOAT

Discover the magnificent view of the Arcadin Coast on a boat specially designed for this trip and discover the beautiful houses built on the edge of the beach with the possibility of diving in a natural pool of turquoise water in the middle of the sea where you can enjoy the reefs to observe fish of different colors, while the chef prepares fresh seafood that will be enjoyed at a table in the water. A festive atmosphere!

**DIFFICULTY LEVEL: I**

**INCLUDED:** Soft drink, water, Beer

**NOT INCLUDED:** Guides

**HOURS AVAILABLE:** Tuesday / Thursday. 9am - 12pm and 1pm - 4pm

**RECOMMENDATIONS:** bathing suit and towel, sunglasses, sunscreen, hat.

**MINIMUM:** 4 pax

**MAXIMUM:** 8 pax

### EXPRESS SNORKELING

This excursion will take you to two of the most beautiful reefs located between the Arcadins coast and the island of La Gonâve to discover the different species of fish and other specimens of the marine fauna in a magical region of turquoise waters.

**DIFFICULTY LEVEL:** II

**INCLUDED:** Snorkeler, guide and soft drink

**NOT INCLUDED:** Gratuities

**RECOMMENDATIONS:** bathing suit and towel, sunglasses, sunscreen, hat.

**MINIMO:** 4 pax

**MÁXIMO:** 8 pax